

I was recently, Mr. Chairman, at a conference held in Baltimore that is focusing on what some refer to as the summer learning slide or summer learning lost. Basically, what do you do to engage students over those summer months to make sure that you are complementing the educational opportunities that they have during the regular school year? And the Summer of Service is a perfect opportunity to do that and to support them so that continuum, that trajectory is always upward. It is not a kind of roller coaster where you get two steps forward and you slip one step back.

How our youth spend their time during the summer period may determine whether they embark on a course of active citizenship and civic engagement and engaged learning or whether they go down a different path. This was a conclusion of a conference that the White House convened in 2000 to look at the issues that are facing teenagers. The Summer of Service initiative will offer youth the chance to spend a summer in service to their communities. I urge that we vote against the Flake amendment that would eliminate the Summer of Service.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. FLAKE. May I inquire as to the time remaining on my side.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arizona has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, this \$20 million program is being authorized under the Learn and Serve program. I would be glad to yield 30 seconds to the sponsor of this program or to the committee if I can find out if they actually studied whether this program is working as it is. It doesn't seem they are near the microphone, so I will read something from the Office of Management and Budget.

The Office of Management and Budget audited this program a while ago under the Learn and Serve program. The Learn and Serve program was audited to be not performing, results not demonstrated. The AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, not performing. Ineffective. This is our own government telling us what our own programs are doing, and yet here we are under the Learn and Serve program authorizing \$20 million more for a new program without trying to go in and actually fix the old program or eliminate the old program.

We in Congress sometimes wonder why our authorizing committees are sometimes neglected. This is why. This is why. This program, the whole AmeriCorps program hasn't been reauthorized I think since 1996 or so; and yet, when we do come to reauthorize it, we ignore what our own government, our own agencies are telling us about these programs and we simply pile more money on.

No matter what we do on the overall bill, and I can read the writing on the wall, the bill is going to pass, let's at

least give some thought to the taxpayers here who have to fund this, to say that we are not going to increase a program to create a new program under an existing program that has been rated by our own Office of Management and Budget as not performing, results not demonstrated.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. INSLEE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 11 offered by Mr. INSLEE:

Page 144, strike lines 15 through 19 and insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

Subtitle I—Energy Conservation Corps

SEC. 1811. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (in this subtitle referred to as the "Corporation") shall make grants to States for the creation or expansion of full-time or part-time Energy Conservation Corps programs. Notwithstanding provisions identified in this subtitle, the Corporation shall apply the provisions of subtitle C of this subchapter in making grants under this section as necessary.

SEC. 1812. APPLICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subtitle, a State shall invite applications from within the State to receive an Energy Conservation Corps grant.

(b) PROCESS.—The State shall then prepare and submit a State application to the Corporation at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation may reasonably require. The Corporation shall consult with state and local Conservation Corps in the development of the application guidelines.

(c) DISADVANTAGED YOUTH.—To acknowledge the focused enrollment of disadvantaged youth and young adults in the Energy Conservation Corps, the Corporation shall—

(1) allow a higher cost-per-member to enable Energy Conservation Corps programs to provide the necessary supportive services to ensure the success of the participants; and

(2) allow for greater flexibility in retention rates.

(d) CONSIDERATION OF RESIDENTIAL CORPS.—The Corporation shall allow for equal consideration of residential Corps program opportunities since residential Corps thrive in rural areas that commonly lack opportunities for young adults, enable the participation for emancipated foster youth, gang involved youth, and others lacking a safe and stable home environment, allow for more structured time for work, training,

education and counseling, and provide disaster response-ready crews immediately upon request.

(e) EQUITABLE TREATMENT.—In the consideration of applications, the Corporation shall ensure the equitable treatment of both urban and rural areas.

SEC. 1813. FOCUS OF PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Programs that receive assistance under this subtitle may carry out activities that—

(1) meet an identifiable public need with specific emphasis on projects in support of energy conservation, infrastructure and transportation improvement, and emergency operations, including—

(A) improving the energy efficiency of housing for elderly and low-income people;

(B) building energy-efficient "green" housing for elderly and low-income people;

(C) environmental education and energy conservation education for elementary and secondary school students and the public;

(D) reusing and recycling including deconstruction;

(E) the repair, renovation, or rehabilitation of an existing infrastructure facility including, but not limited to, rail, mass transportation, ports, inland navigation, schools and hospitals;

(F) transportation enhancements;

(G) recreational trails improvements, including those that enable alternative means of transportation and ensure safe use;

(H) transformation of military bases affected by the Base Realignment and Closing process (BRAC) to green the space;

(I) tree planting and reforestation;

(J) renewable resource enhancement; and

(K) assisting in emergency operations, such as disaster prevention and relief; and

(2) provide opportunities for youth and young adults, especially disadvantaged youth, to be trained for careers related to the activities listed in paragraph (1), including those that will be part of the emerging field of "green collar" jobs.

(b) GOALS OF THE ENERGY CONSERVATION CORPS.—The goals of the Energy Conservation Corps are to—

(1) promote clean energy use and preserve, protect, and sustain the environment;

(2) provide young adults with opportunities to become better citizens, students and workers through meaningful service to their communities and the nation;

(3) mobilize youth and young adults, especially disadvantaged youth, to promote energy conservation and mitigate threats to the environment; and

(4) provide a pathway to responsible adulthood and productive, unsubsidized employment in the private sector.

SEC. 1814. TRAINING AND EDUCATION SERVICES.

All applicants must describe how they intend to—

(1) assess the skills of Corpsmembers;

(2) provide life skills and work skills training;

(3) provide training and education;

(4) develop agreements for academic study with—

(A) local education agencies;

(B) community colleges;

(C) 4-year colleges;

(D) area charter high schools and vocational-technical schools; and

(E) community-based organizations;

(5) provide career and educational guidance; and

(6) Recruit participants without high school diplomas.

SEC. 1815. PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS.

In the consideration of applications the Corporation shall give preference to programs that are discrete and—